

**SAVANNAH'S  
ANTI-POVERTY TASK FORCE**

**Meeting Agenda**

Tuesday, June 22, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
EOA of Savannah-Chatham Area, Inc

**I. Welcome**

**II. Housekeeping**

- A. Updated Task Force Contact List / Sign-in Sheet
- B. Task Force Web site

**III. Review of last meeting (5 min)**

**IV. Host Spotlight:** EOA of Savannah-Chatham Area, Inc

**V. Reports from Subcommittees**

- A. Resource Collaboration – Valerie Brown
  - 1. Update
  - 2. Agency Marketing Inventory
  - 3. Next subcommittee meeting
- B. Wage Standards – Bernie Polite
  - 1. Update
  - 2. Next subcommittee meeting
- C. Case Management – Natalie Walker
- D. Ad Hoc – Julie Lamy
  - 1. Update
  - 2. Next subcommittee meeting

**VI. Information Sharing (5 min)**

- A. Upcoming Task Force member events
- B. Other announcements

**VII. Upcoming Task Force Meetings & Venues**

July 27	St. Mary's Community Center
August 24	Chatham County Department of Family and Children Services

## **SAVANNAH'S ANTI-POVERTY TASK FORCE**

### **Meeting Summary**

Tuesday, June 22, 2004, 10:00 – 11:30 a.m.  
EOA of Savannah-Chatham Area, Inc.

#### **VIII. Welcome**

Sr. Pat Baber, Dr. Victoria Bertolozzi, Janice Blunt, Alan Bray, Valerie Brown, Mona Clark, Earline Davis, Judy Davis, Pearine Frazier, Gwen Glover, Keenya Gray-Mosley, Pauline Haywood, Alex Ikefuna, Julie Lamy, Craig Wallace, Ruthann Walsh, Diane Weems.

#### **IX. Housekeeping**

- B. The Task Force contact list was circulated for corrections and additions.
- C. The information contained on the listserve has been moved to web pages accessed through the City of Savannah website. For the fastest route to access information about the Task Force including past meeting summaries and agendas: go to [www.SavannahGA.gov](http://www.SavannahGA.gov), in the upper right hand corner - search for *Savannah's Anti-Poverty Task Force*, click on the first link and voila.

#### **X. Review of last meeting**

The May 25 meeting summary was approved as presented.

#### **XI. Host Spotlight – EOA of Savannah-Chatham Area, Inc.**

Judy Davis presented information on EOA's literacy initiative which was featured in the *Savannah Morning News* in May. Through the Scholastic Book Company, Judy and EOA are soliciting support in order to provide dictionaries in every Head Start child's home. Research shows that 15-20 books in a home make it more likely for a child to pick up. John Finney and Terry Tolbert provided a history and overview of EOA. EOA was started in 1965 by the Johnson Administration. The intent was to afford the maximum feasible participation of low income individuals in programs. EOA in Savannah was the first organization to include a youth as a member of the board. EOA now has approximately 245 employees, a \$12M budget and two facilities (Anderson Street and the Tom Austin House on MLK). For more information on EOA of Savannah-Chatham Area, Inc., visit their website at <[www.eoasga.org](http://www.eoasga.org)>.

#### **XII. Fall Event Update – Pre-Fall Event Activities**

- A. Public Forums: UGA will plan and facilitate five to six public forums throughout the city.
  - 1. The goal of the forums is to gather information from the public-at-large including people living in poverty and people not living in poverty. The forums will try to assess what is working, what is not working and what will work in the following areas: healthcare, transportation, policy, workforce development/education and healthcare. The information gathered at the forums will be used to develop the community wide anti-poverty action plan and to produce materials for the fall symposium.
  - 2. The Task Force suggested the following as possible forum locations: St. Pius Resource Center, St. Paul's, Sacred Heart Catholic Church, Savannah Technical

College, Armstrong Atlantic State University, Savannah State University, and White Bluff Methodist Church. The next Task Force meeting may serve as a forum for service organizations.

- B. Research: UGA is working on economic impact data specific for Savannah and its census tracts. The data will be used to develop 'what if...' statements to show what could happen if the poverty rate or education levels changed.
- C. Marketing Plan: A Marketing intern from ProjectSav will work with Ad hoc to develop a marketing plan for activities associated with fall symposium.

### **XIII. Reports from Subcommittees:**

#### **1. Wage Standards**

- 1. Direction: This month, the Wage Standards subcommittee discussed feedback received from the Task Force at the May meeting and have identified five research questions for UGA.
- 2. Brittney Kohler, an intern with the Economic Development Department, will conduct research for the Wage Standards committee and attend subcommittee meetings. Current projects include developing information sheets on entry level jobs and career ladders in key Savannah industries. Brittney is also compiling the subcommittee's research to date and conducting additional wage research.
- 3. Next meeting: The subcommittee will meet on Thursday, July 15 at 3pm at Coastal Workforce Services.

#### **ii. Resource Collaboration**

- a. Subcommittee member, John Paul Berlon, will work with Earline Davis (HAS) and Charlotte Rehmert (DFCS) to initiate planning meetings for the case worker quarterly trainings.
- b. Subcommittee Chair, Valerie Brown, collected the subcommittee's marketing inventories. The subcommittee will tabulate the inventories and make recommendations for collaboration based on marketing overlap and due to limited agency budgets.

#### **D. Case Management**

- 1. Focus Groups: Task Force Americorps volunteer, Natalie Walker, has conducted 2 focus groups with individuals living in poverty and has scheduled 2 more groups in July. Initial feedback from the focus groups indicates child care is a major concern. The majority of participants (18 of 20) have been females. Feedback from the focus groups will be incorporated into agency survey results and will shape the format of the public forums and fall symposium breakout groups.
- 2. Anyone interested in having their clients participate in a focus group, please contact Natalie Walker at 651-3653 or [Natalie\\_Walker@SavannahGA.gov](mailto:Natalie_Walker@SavannahGA.gov).

### **XIV. Upcoming Task Force Meetings & Venues**

Tuesday, July 27 at St. Mary's Community Center

Tuesday, August 24 at St. Pius X Family Resource Center